

Art Unit: 1763

Change(s) applied to document,
/C.L.F./
8/11/2011

ii) in line ⁸~~8~~, change "polysulfide, polyethylene, polypropylene, fluorinated hydrocarbons," to -- polysulfide, fluorinated hydrocarbons--

iii) in line ¹⁷⁻¹⁸~~15-16~~, change "silica that has not been compacted with a roller compactor or by a pressing filter belt" to --silica that has not been compacted by a pressing filter belt--.

Statement of Reasons for Allowance

4. The present claims are allowable over the closest prior art Nowak et al. (US 2001/0047047), Deller et al. (WO 2003097713 A1), Gruenewaelder et al. (WO 2001090271), Hasenzahl et al. (US 20020197311), for the following reasons:

The present claims are drawn to an adhesive or sealant composition and method for preparing the same, where the composition of the sealant includes a resin in combination with 1 to 15% by weight of a particularly defined hydrophobic pyrogenic silica having compacted bulk density of 60 g/L to 200 g/L combined with a BET surface area of 80 to 290 m²/g, and a carbon content in the silica component of 1.0% to 6.5% by weight, and the silica is compacted by a pressing filter belt which provides a thixotropic behavior to the silica. The silica compacted by a pressing filter belt has a different structure from silica modified by other structure modifying methods, such as ball milling. (Note p. 1 of the 3 page Affidavit submitted 7/13/2010) This renders the claimed silica particular from other structurally modified silicas having similar hydrophobicity and pyrogenic preparation methods.

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Suzannah Sundby on 7/3/2010.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

In originally numbered **Claim 1**:

i) line 2, change " polyurethane, silane-terminated polymers, silicones, unsaturated" to --polyurethane, unsaturated --.

ii) in line 6, change "polysulfide, polyethylene, polypropylene, fluorinated hydrocarbons," to -- polysulfide, fluorinated hydrocarbons--

iii) in line 15-16, change "silica that has not been compacted with a roller compactor or by a pressing filter belt" to --silica that has not been compacted by a pressing filter belt--.

In originally numbered **Claim 3**:

i) line ⁴~~2~~, change "polyurethane, silane-terminated polymers, silicones, unsaturated" to -- polyurethane, unsaturated --.

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